

Sunday — April 9, 2023

## The Fallacy of Self-Sufficiency

### Genesis 3: (NLT)

...“**Did God really say...**

<sup>5</sup> “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and **you will be like God**, knowing both good and evil.”

<sup>6</sup> The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and **she wanted the wisdom it would give her**. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, **who was with her**, and he ate it, too.

### Genesis 11

#### James 4: 13 – 16 (NLT)

Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.” <sup>14</sup> How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog — it’s here a little while, then it’s gone. <sup>15</sup> What you ought to say is, “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.” <sup>16</sup> Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil.

#### Proverbs 21: 5 (NLT)

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.

### James is concerned about the attitude of Self- sufficiency

Those who give no consideration to:

1. The Existence of God
2. God’s Authority
3. God’s Sovereignty
4. God’s Will
5. God’s Word
6. God’s Glory

1. We have LIMITED knowledge.

**James 4: 14 (NLT)**

*How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow?*

**2. Our lives are BRIEF.**

**James 4: 14 (NLT)**

*Your life is like the morning fog — it's here a little while, then it's gone.*

**James 4: 15 (NLT)**

*What you ought to say is, "If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that."*

**Proverbs 16: 9 (NLT)**

*We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps.*

**James 4: 16 (NLT)**

*Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil.*

**Colossians 1: 15 - 20 (NLT)**

*Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, <sup>16</sup> for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. <sup>18</sup> Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, **supreme over all who rise from the dead**. So he is first in everything. <sup>19</sup> For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, <sup>20</sup> and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.*